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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,739	08/03/2005	Dimitris K. Agrafiotis	30923-721.831	6801

21971 7590 10/31/2006

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EXAMINER

GOOD JOHNSON, MOTILEWA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2628

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/517,739	Applicant(s) AGRAFIOTIS ET AL.	
	Examiner Motilewa Good-Johnson	Art Unit 2628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/18/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jain, U.S. Patent Number 6,121,969.

Regarding claim 1, Jain discloses a computerized method for generating mapping coordinates for a set of objects, wherein two or more objects are related by associated pairwise relationship (col. 5, lines 31-44) the method comprising the steps of: 1) specifying a set of bounds for one or more relationships (col. 10, lines 36-41, defining a display space which is used to rank images within the geometry of the space); 2) assigning initial coordinates to the objects on the map (col. 10, lines 40-41, deriving the metrics inside the display space); 3) selecting a pair of objects 4) computing a distance *d* between said selected objects on the map; (col. 7, lines 41-51) 5) comparing said distance *d* between said selected objects on the map to the bounds of their associated relationship (col. 9, lines 35-46, col. 10, lines 48-50); 6) adjusting the coordinate so said selected objects on the map so that the distance *d* of selected objects on the map falls closer within said bounds of said corresponding relationship 4,(col. 11, lines 51-57) if said distance *d* between said selected objects on

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the map falls outside said bounds of said corresponding relationship r ; 7) repeating steps 3) through 6) for additional pairs of objects (col. 11, lines 54-55, recursively repeated); and 8) outputting the coordinates of one or more objects on the map (col. 13, line 60- col. 14, line 3)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jain as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Cramer, U.S. Patent Number 6,240,374.

Regarding claim 2, Jain fails to disclose a) identifying a neighborhood radius $r(c)$; b) selecting a pair of objects; c) comparing the relationship r of said selected objects to said neighborhood radius $r(c)$, assigning a lower bound and an upper bound of said relationship r . . . ; e) if said relationship r of said selected objects is greater than said neighborhood radius $r(c)$, defining a lower bound of said relationship . . . and an upper bound . . . ; and f) repeating steps a) through e) . . .

Cramer discloses clustering using generated by using distance for similarity and the size of the and the size of the neighboring radius for clustering analysis, col. 30,

lines 28-60.

It would have been obvious to include as a criteria for measuring the similarity of objects disclosed in Jain, the radius criteria as disclosed in Cramer, to allow a perceptual display of the display space to a user, with the criteria interactively derived.

Regarding claim 3, Jain discloses a pairwise relationship between two objects represents a similarity/dissimilarity between said objects (col. 9, lines 50-52)

Regarding claim 4, Jain discloses wherein a pairwise relationship between two objects represents a distance between said objects (col. 9, lines 45-46)

Regarding claim 5, However, it is noted that Jain fails to disclose step 6) comprises the step of: adjusting the coordinates of said selected objects on the map by a correction factor so that said distance d of said selected objects on the map falls closer within said bounds of said corresponding relationship r , if said distance d between said selected objects on the map falls outside said bounds of said corresponding relationship r .

Cramer discloses step 6) comprises the step of: adjusting the coordinates of said selected objects on the map by a correction factor so that said distance d of said selected objects on the map falls closer within said bounds of said corresponding relationship r , if said distance d between said selected objects on the map falls outside said bounds of said corresponding relationship r (col. 30, lines 1-27)

It would have been obvious to include as a criteria for measuring the similarity of objects disclosed in Jain, the radius criteria as disclosed in Cramer, to allow a perceptual display of the display space to a user, with the criteria interactively derived.

Regarding claim 6, Cramer discloses repeating steps 3) through 7) for several correction factors (col. 30, lines 22-24)

Regarding claim 7, Cramer discloses the value of the correction factor is reduced after each repetition of steps 3) through 7) (col. 30, lines 51-60)

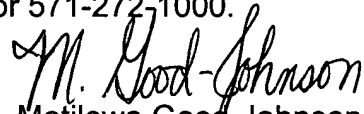
Regarding claim 8, Cramer discloses steps 1) through 7) are repeated for several neighborhood radii $r(c)$ (col. 30, lines 56-57)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Motilewa Good-Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7658. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Motilewa Good-Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2628

mgj